

GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA
ABSTRACT

Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 – **Form 'C'** Proposal for Survey, Investigation and Drilling of **11 boreholes** with 4" diameter in an area of **2.31 sq.km.** in Pengaddapa Block falling in Pengaddapa Reserved Forest of Kothagudem forest Division, for prospecting and detail Coal exploration by M/s. SCCL – **In-principle (Stage.I) approval** accorded – Orders – Issued.

ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY (FOR.I) DEPARTMENT

G.O.Rt.No. 150

Dated: 05-10-2018
Read the following:-

1. From the PCCF (HoFF), T.S., Hyd., Lr.No.8593/2017/FCA-1/PS, Dt:05.09.20182.
2. Government of India, Ministry of Environment & Forests, New Delhi, Lr.F.No. 5-3/2007-FC, dt.09.05.2018

ORDER:

In his letter 1st read above, the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Telangana, Hyderabad has submitted a proposal under section-2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, for **Form 'C'** Proposal for Survey, Investigation and Drilling of **11 boreholes** with 4" diameter in an area of **2.31 sq.km.** in Pengaddapa Block falling in Pengaddapa Reserved Forest of Kothagudem forest Division, for prospecting and detail Coal exploration by M/s. SCCL.

2. The proposal has been examined with references to the guidelines issued by the Government of India in the letters 2nd read above.

3. Government after careful examination of the proposal and in exercise of the powers delegated to State Government in the guidelines issued by Government of India in the letters 2nd read above, hereby accord in-principle (Stage.I) approval for **Form 'C'** Proposal for Survey, Investigation and Drilling of **11 boreholes** with 4" diameter in an area of **2.31 sq.km.** in Pengaddapa Block falling in Pengaddapa Reserved Forest of Kothagudem forest Division, for prospecting and detail Coal exploration by M/s. SCCL, subject to compliance of the following conditions:

- i. The prospecting of minerals by drilling bore holes for collecting seismic waves and collecting minerals samples constitutes non-forestry activities for the purpose of Forest Conservation Act.
- ii. The user agency shall apply online for diversion of forest area as per the procedure laid down by MoEF&CC from time to time.
- iii. General approval may be accorded to the state government by the MoEF&CC for prospecting of minerals in forest land having average weighted crown density up to 40% as per the latest FSI report.
- iv. In case of coal, lignite and metallic ores – test drilling up to 20 boreholes of maximum 8" dia per 1.0 sq km and in case of non-metallic ores excluding coal&lignite – test drilling up to 16 boreholes of maximum 6.6" dia per 1.0 sq km for prospecting exploration or reconnaissance operations, without felling of trees, may be allowed by state government. In all other cases involving more number of drilling of bore holes, prior permission of Central Government under the Act would be required.

(PTO)

- v. In case of seismic survey for exploration of hydro carbon the user agency shall pay NPV @ of 2.0 per cent of the total prospecting lease area in which exploration/prospecting/survey is proposed. The amount shall be deposited online in the Adhoc CAMPA. State government shall get the amount verified from Adhoc CAMPA prior to allowing actual work on ground.
 - vi. In case of survey for coal, lignite, ferrous and non-ferrous minerals using core drilling technology in forestland having crown density upto 40%, the prospecting agency shall pay NPV @ of 5.0 per cent of the total prospecting lease area in which exploration/prospecting/survey is proposed. The amount shall be deposited online in the Adhoc CAMPA. State government shall get the amount verified from Adhoc CAMPA prior to allowing actual work on ground.
 - vii. In case of survey for coal, lignite, ferrous and non-ferrous minerals using core drilling technology in forestland having crown density between 40 to 70 percent, the State Government shall forward the application to the Regional Office of the Ministry for consideration. The proposal will be consideration in the REC and if recommended then the approval will be granted with mandatory condition inter alia that user agency will pay NPV@ of 10.0 per cent of the total prospecting lease area in which exploration/prospecting/survey is proposed.
 - viii. The NPV deposited for prospecting will not be adjusted against the diversion proposal of forest land under section 2 of FCA 1980. The amount will be non-refundable as well non-adjustable.
 - ix. User agency shall submit complete plan of operation for prospecting in the entire forest area in the mining block prior to start of work to the Nodal Officer of the state.
 - x. User agency shall prepare a plan to plant 20 tall trees per bore-hole area. The cost of preparation of plan and plantation shall be borne by the user agency. State government shall ensure that the plants are planted on abandoned bore-hole area and degraded forest land as per prescription of working plan in a contiguous patch.
 - xi. The user agency shall engage ICFRE to conduct study on the impact numbers of bore holes for prospecting over forest and wild life of the area and suggest mitigation measures. The design of study shall be approved by MoEF&CC.
 - xii. Prospecting in protected areas such as national parks, wildlife sanctuaries, biosphere reserve, Tiger reserves, corridors, pristine forests identified by State and Central Government etc., shall not be allowed.
 - xiii. The delegation of power to grant permission for prospecting by the state government shall be valid for 5 years only and will be reviewed after expiry of five years.
4. After receipt of the compliance report of the above conditions, the proposal will be considered for final approval. Transfer of forest land to the user agency shall not be affected prior to the issue of final approval. This approval shall be valid for a period of 5 years. In the event of non compliance of the above conditions, this approval shall automatically stand revoked.

(Contd...)

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5. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), Telangana, Hyderabad, is therefore directed to take further necessary action accordingly in the matter.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF TELANGANA)

AJAY MISRA
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT (FAC)

To
The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF),
Telangana State, Hyderabad.

Copy to:

The Addl. Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests (C), Government of India,
Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change,
Regional Office (South Eastern Zone),
1st & 2nd floor, HEPC Building, No.34, Cathedral Garden Road,
Nungambakkam, Chennai – 600034 (w.e.)

The Chairman & Managing Director, Singareni Collieries Company
Limited, Singareni Bhavan Red Hills Hyderabad.
SC.

//FORWARDED :: BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER